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RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

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PTQ1891

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ACTION INR-00

INFO LOG-00 NP-00 ACQ-00 DODE-00 WHA-00 DS-00 UTED-00
VC-00 TEDE-00 VCE-00 AC-01 NSAE-00 ACE-00 TEST-00
DSCC-00 DRL-02 NFAT-00 SAS-00 /003W
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R 201718Z DEC 01
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4369
INFO CIA WASHDC
DIA WASHDC
NSC WASHDC
USCINCSO MIAMI FL
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY QUITO
USINT HAVANA

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 CARACAS 003712

INR FOR COZART
NSC FOR AMBASSADOR MAISTO
USCINCSO FOR POLAD

SENSITIVE

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E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, VE
SUBJ: BOLIVARIAN RALLY A SHORT TERM SUCCESS

1. (U) SUMMARY: ON DECEMBER 17, THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE
LIBERATOR SIMON BOLIVAR'S DEATH, TENS OF THOUSANDS OF
PRESIDENT CHAVEZ'S FOLLOWERS FILLED CARACAS'S IMPORTANT
AVENIDA BOLIVAR TO ATTEND HIS REACTIVATION OF THE
BOLIVARIAN REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT-200 (MBR-200) AND HIS
SWEARING IN OF SEVERAL THOUSAND "BOLIVARIAN CIRCLES."
CHAVEZ'S TWO-AND-A-HALF HOUR SPEECH FOCUSED ON THE GOAL TO
"CONSOLIDATE THE REVOLUTION" IN 2002.

B1

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
CLASSIFIED BY DEPT. OF STATE, L. R. LOHMAN, DAS, A/ISS
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ALAN H FLANIGAN
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(B), 1.4(D)
DECLASSIFY AFTER: 20 DEC 2021
DATE/CASE ID: 23 FEB 2007 200503643

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GLORY, BRAVE PEOPLE

2. (U) ON DECEMBER 17, THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATOR SIMON BOLIVAR'S DEATH, TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PRESIDENT CHAVEZ'S FOLLOWERS FILLED CARACAS'S IMPORTANT AVENIDA BOLIVAR TO PARTICIPATE IN HIS REACTIVATION OF THE BOLIVARIAN REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT-200 (MBR-200) AND HIS SWEARING IN OF SEVERAL THOUSAND "BOLIVARIAN CIRCLES."

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THE IMPRESSIVE VISUALS SEEMED TO CONFIRM

CHAVEZ'S CONTINUED ABILITY TO DRAW AN ENTHUSIASTIC CROWD. MOREOVER, THE EVENT PROBABLY SERVED BOTH TO LIFT THE SPIRITS OF PRO-CHAVEZ SUPPORTERS AFTER THE NATIONAL WORK STOPPAGE AND TO WARN THE OPPOSITION THAT CHAVISMO IS HARDLY A SPENT FORCE.

3. (U) WEARING HIS FAMILIAR RED BERET AND VENEZUELAN FLAG WARM-UP JACKET, CHAVEZ MOUNTED THE PODIUM AND LED THE SINGING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM. THEN, WITH RIGHT HAND RAISED, HE SWORE IN THE "BOLIVARIAN CIRCLES," WHO PLEDGED TO DEFEND VENEZUELA AND THE BOLIVARIAN REVOLUTION. CHAVEZ'S TWO-AND-A-HALF HOUR SPEECH REPEATED THE USUAL ANTI-OLIGARCH, ANTI-NEOLIBERALISM MANTRA AND THEN FOCUSED-- FOR LACK OF A BETTER WORD--ON THE GOAL OF THE MBR-200 AND THE CIRCLES TO "CONSOLIDATE THE REVOLUTION" IN 2002.

OPPOSITION PROTESTS FIZZLE

4. (SBU) PLANS FOR SIMULTANEOUS PROTESTS IN CITIES AROUND THE COUNTRY--IN WHICH PEOPLE WOULD PROTEST THE LIBERATOR'S DISHONORED MEMORY IN THEIR OWN PLAZAS BOLIVAR--NEVER

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MATERIALIZED.

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	DSCC-00	DRL-02	NEAT-00	SAS-00	/003W		
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